from Section 7

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-106

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

O : [illegible]C (157-1067) DATE: 8/28/68

ROM : SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE

UBJECT: BLACK ORGANIZING PROJECT (BOP), aka
Invaders
IS

On 8/4/68 [redacted] orally advised as follows:

On Friday evening 8/2/68 JOHN B. SMITH, CHARLES HARRINGTON, WILLIE ROGERS, ERIC HOLMAN, MELVIN SMITH, MARRELL MC COLLOUGH, VERNELL BROOKS, LINUS BETHEL, and three unidentified Negro girls were loafing at the Memphis War on Poverty Committee (WOPC) - sponsored Neighborhood Organizing Project (NOP) office at 1310 Florida.

HARRINGTON, ROGERS, HOLMAN, and BROOKS, all on the NOP payroll, were complaining that they were to have been paid that day, but were not paid. All said they wanted to get some "pot" (marijuana) and said they would try to get some from PAUL SIMS.

1 - 157-1067 (BOP)
1 - 170-1019 Sub [redacted]
1 - 157-556 (Posse - Racial Violence, Major Urban Areas)
1 157-957 [redacted]
1 - 157-1019
1 - 157-1349
1 - 157-1275
1 - 157-1230
1 - 157-1116
1 - 157-953 (Black Power Infiltration, NOP and WOPC)
1 - 170-1041
1 - 157-1277
1 - 170-1024
1 - 157-1431
1 - 157-1332
1 - 100-45229
1 - 157-1238
1 - 157-1423
1 - 157-1286
1 - 157-1253
WHL:gah
(20)

157-1067-382

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
AUG 29 1968
FBI — MEMPHIS

On 8/3/68 [redacted] EMMETT HOUSE, CHARLES BALLARD, FINUS BETHEL, and MELVIN SMITH, all on the porch of JOHN B. SMITH's apartment, 1644 Hanauer, Apt. 2.

EMMETT said the police had raided SMITH's apartment on the late night of 8/2/68 and claimed to have gotten some marijuana and phenobarbital and some guns. HOUSE claimed the police planted all the stuff there and that the Police Department arrested JOHN B. SMITH, CHARLES BALLARD, CHARLES HARRINGTON, VERDELL BROOKS, MARVA NORMAN, JEWELL DAVIS, and MARRELL MC COLLOUGH. He bragged that he was glad the police did not find the "sawed off" shotgun in JOHN B.'s apartment. BALLARD claimed "they" had nothing in the apartment, other than the water pipe from which they had been smoking marijuana.

[redacted] said that JOHN B. SMITH, VERDELL BROOKS, and CHARLES HARRINGTON, seemed to crave marijuana and phenobarbital the most.

MELVIN SMITH was heard to comment that he is definitely concerned about the Invaders, NOP and BOP personnel relying so heavily on the use of marijuana and dope. He said they spend most of their time getting "high" instead of working, learning and teaching black power. MELVIN seems more dedicated and sincere in his true black power belief. He said he has good black power contacts in Indianapolis, Indiana, and wants to go there.

MELVIN said the Nation of Islam (NOI) for example has "togetherness" but that its program, primarily because of its religious dogma, does not appeal to the black community.

MELVIN SMITH said it was futile at this point for the Black Powerites to advocate physically going to war with the whites as the blacks are badly outnumbered. He said that JOHN B. SMITH and CHARLES CABBAGE are <u>not good leaders,</u> as they are too emotional.

SMITH said their main desire is dope, money and publicity, and that they want to be racketeers and not true leaders.

Information re Lizzie Jones

They said nothing concerning LIZZIE JONES, Apt. 3, 1644 Hanauer, whose apartment was also raided by police on 8/2/68.

Information re GEORGE HUNT

Also on 8/3/68 EMMETT HOUSE commented regarding the recent fist fight in which JOHN B. SMITH, MELVIN SMITH, and EMMETT HOUSE fought WOPC Supervisor GEORGE R. HUNT.

EMMETT HOUSE said they were not as mad at HUNT as they were with Rev. JAMES NETTERS, Memphis City Councilman, who was at NOP office, 1310 Florida, just prior to the start of the fight. They said HUNT had no alternative but to defend NETTERS.

Information re KAY HENDERSON

[redacted] said the girl called KAY HENDERSON, a consort of the Invaders, lives with her grandfather, 1385 Texas. They call him "Popcorn." He is allegedly NOLAN HENDERSON. (NOTE: The records of Carver High School show no record of KAY HENDERSON. She probably has another name. [redacted] will endeavor to ascertain same.)

Information re MARVA CUNNINGHAM

[redacted] recalled that in the Spring of 1968 JOHN B. SMITH was dating MARVA CUNNINGHAM of 23 Fields, an employee at the International Harvester, and who has a new green and cream Mercury Cougar.

MARVA allegedly does not approve of JOHN B.'s black power activities. However, about two weeks prior to 8/4/68 [redacted] saw JOHN B. SMITH sitting in MARVA's car.

Information re HELEN WASHINGTON

[redacted] said he had heard that CHARLES CABBAGE has recently been running around with HELEN WASHINGTON, Negro female; that she is a Beale Street "character" and hangs out at Fourth and Hernando. [redacted] She did have a young Negro girl, name not known, working for her. She did live in South Memphis.

PAUL SIMS, the notorious marijuana pusher, knows her and she has done some work for SIMS.